IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IFW

In re the Application of

Inventors:

M. TAKEDA, et al.

Application No.:

10/734,568

Filed:

December 15, 2003

For:

MICROPUMP, MICROPUMP UNIT INCLUDING THE MICROPUMP, SAMPLE PROCESSING CHIP FOR USE WITH THE UNIT, AND

APR 0 6 2005

SHEET CONNECTOR FOR USE WITH THE UNIT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. All of these references were cited in an European Search Report dated February 21, 2005 (copy attached). The JP '400 document is already of record.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 6, 2005

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Registration No. 28,732

JEL/ejw

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. <u>L8612.03110</u>

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